

The following is a better article than the one we published yesterday, and was fully credited to the Providence Journal, from which we take it, on the

Venus in January.
Venus is evening star, though too near the sun to be easily seen in the early part of the month. She is, however, coming towards the earth, while receding from the sun, and at the end of the month will be a beautiful object to behold, shining brightly in the glow of twilight. She sets now about 5 o'clock—half an hour after sunset—but on the 31st she will be above the horizon nearly an hour after sunset. The most interesting planetary event during the month will occur on the 23d, when Venus, Jupiter, and the new moon will be in conjunction. This will make a celestial picture beautiful to see; for the fairest, largest, and nearest of the solar brotherhood will be side by side.

Jupiter is evening star, but he will soon be lost to sight for the end of the month he will be too near the sun to be visible. He sets now about 7, but on the 31st will set about half-past 7. Jupiter has nearly reached his last apparent dimensions and greatest distance as seen from the earth. He arrives at this extreme point on the 8th of February, when he will be in conjunction with the sun. After this epoch he will recede on the western side of the sun as morning star, drawing nearer to the earth and growing brighter till his opposition on the 23d of March. This radiant planet will be very much missed among the stars, but where he has reigned preeminent for several months, but the presence of Venus, the brightest of the throng, will soon make up the loss.

Saturn is evening star, and is easily recognized, his position differing little from that of December. His steady light and the absence of bright stars in the neighborhood make him a marked object. He comes to the meridian about 6 and sets about 11. He is growing smaller as he recedes from us, and his conjunction with the sun, which occurs on the 26th of March, after which, following in the wake of Jupiter, he will join the morning stars.

Mars is morning star, rising about 5, two hours and a half before sunrise, and is rapidly larger and brighter than last month, and always easily recognized from his ruddy light. Mercury is morning star during the month. He reaches his greatest western elongation on the 16th, and may then be seen in the eastern sky before sunrise. This is one of the four favorable opportunities for seeing Mercury as morning star during the year 1879. The January moon fulfils on the 8th, and she has already passed her conjunction with Jupiter and Saturn. She will be in conjunction with Mars on the 19th and Mercury on the 20th, the waning crescent and the planets making a picture worth getting up early to see. The new moon of the 22d will be in conjunction with Venus and Jupiter on the 22d, and with Saturn on the 27th, three days before the first quarter. The first eclipse of the year occurs on the 22d. It will be an annular eclipse of the sun, and invisible in the United States. The beautiful phenomenon can, however, be seen in the southern part of South America, Southern Africa, and the South Atlantic ocean.

Rupert writes to know what is meant by "a change of base." We don't just exactly know ourself, Rupert. But we think it means turning out one business-gear and putting in another. It may be that you may not be the correct answer; but, so long as you don't know any better, it is just as good as any. Mr. Beecher's reception yesterday was probably more largely attended than that of any one else in the country, with the possible exception of the President. In all, thirty hundred persons wished him "a very happy New Year," and among them were several ladies. — *New York Herald.*

Archie: Auntie, what's a torpedo? Auntie: Something that blows something up, my love. Archie: Then, are you a torpedo, auntie? Auntie: No, my dear. Why? Archie: Because I heard uncle telling you you were always blowing him up.—*Judy.*

When tiffy is only twenty cents a pound, and white at that, who will dare to contend that the times are not improving? Some kinds of tiffy are still cheaper than this.—*Elmira Advertiser.*

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STATE AGENTS AND CHEMISTS' OFFICE, Richmond, Va., November 1, 1878.

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No. 2068 Franklin, between Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh streets.

No. 15 east Third, between Cary and Canal streets.

No. 505 north Twenty-third street, between Clay and Leigh streets.

No. 214 east Third, between Main and Franklin streets.

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No. 1715 Franklin, between Seventeenth and Eighteenth streets.

No. 6 south Fourteenth, between Main and Cary streets.

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